

Joint Committee Proposes Public Ambulance Service Be Established in Chicago

Recommendation that Chicago establish a public emergency ambulance service sponsored by the board of health through a special ambulance department has been made by a joint committee representing the Chicago Medical Society, the Chicago Hospital Council, the American College of Surgeons and the Chicago Council of Social Agencies. The plan has been submitted to the parent bodies for approval.

Chicago is the only large city in the United States that has not one medically adequate public ambulance available for general emergency use, the committee points out.

Dr. Malcolm T. MacEachern, associate director, American College of Surgeons, is chairman of the joint committee, and the Chicago Hospital Council has financed the study and taken the responsibility for the technical and clerical work involved.

The committee recommends a minimum of 20 regular ambulances for the city at first, with the provision that the ambulance service be extended to include other areas in Greater Chicago as soon as possible. Ambulances are to be housed in or adjacent to a hospital approved for ambulance service.

Emergency indigent care, under the plan, would be available in all private hospitals, which would be reimbursed, in part, at least, for such service by the city, the relief administration and other social agencies.

The committee estimates that a minimum budget of \$173,300 would be required for the first year for the capital outlay and cost of operation; \$123,500, for the second year, and \$130,700, for the third year and each year thereafter.

The city would be zoned by the ambulance department on the basis of density of population, industrial centers, accident and emergency frequency and the location of ambulance hospitals.

To Construct Cancer Hospital

Mrs. Agnes G. M. Peabody, chairman of the executive committee of the Curie Institute, incorporated in February 1937, to improve facilities for treating cancer in New Jersey, has announced that the institute hopes to start construction of a \$2,000,000 hospital and training and research center by the middle of 1939. The hospital will be erected in Newark or vicinity, Mrs. Peabody said.



Rear Admiral P. S. Rossiter, surgeon general, U.S. Navy, examining a design for the new Naval Medical Center, to be erected near Washington, D.C.

New Naval Medical Center to Arise on Maryland Site

Just across the "pike" from where the National Cancer Institute of the U. S. Public Health Service is being erected in Montgomery County, Maryland, will arise the buildings of the new Naval Medical Center which is being moved from its old site in the city of Washington.

These two medical centers, together with the National Institute of Health, which is to be adjacent to the cancer institute, may comprise a new national medical center, where national medical societies can hold their meetings and take advantage of the combined facilities of all three institutions.

President Roosevelt has personally selected the type of the main building for the naval medical center. A tower, 250 feet high, rises from the center of a long building, four stories high, which will house the medical and dental schools. Back of this will be the hospital, consisting of four ward buildings, each of three stories and a basement. Between the wards will be the commissary building.

Funds for Plant Renovation

Cambridge Hospital, Cambridge, Mass., campaigned intensively for a sum of \$100,000 during a period of ten days. When the campaign closed, the last reported amount totaled \$106,604. A small per cent of this was designated for specific gifts. The balance will be used in the renovation.

\$1,000,000 Bequest Is Unrestricted

An unrestricted bequest of \$1,000,000 was made to the Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, in the will of the late Mrs. Judd B. Wood, widow of a dentist. The will was probated in September.

Transferred to State Control

Dr. William C. Sandy, director of the bureau of mental health of the Pennsylvania State Department of Health, has been appointed temporary superintendent of the Philadelphia Hospital for Mental Diseases at Byberry, coincident with the inauguration of state control there.

With Doctor Sandy as active advisers in the reorganization of the institution will be three leading institutional psychiatrists in the employ of the state of Pennsylvania: Dr. Herbert C. Woolley, superintendent, Pennhurst State School at Pennhurst; Dr. Charles H. Zeller, superintendent of the Farview State Hospital at Waymart, and Dr. Arthur P. Noyes, superintendent of the Norristown State Hospital, Norristown. It has been reported that Doctor Woolley may be named permanent superintendent of the institution, which probably will be renamed the Philadelphia State Hospital.

Dr. Wilbur P. Rickert, superintendent while the hospital was under municipal control, probably will be replaced. Transfer of the institution to state control is the result of the action of a group of Philadelphia physicians who have consistently urged state control of mental institutions.

Hospital Proposed for Beverly Hills

Preliminary plans for the 200 bed hospital to be erected in Beverly Hills, Calif., call for the expenditure of approximately one million dollars. The project has the cooperation of the California hospital group, which is undertaking the initial responsibility. The committee making the investigation of hospital needs in that community discovered that nearly 9000 persons from Beverly Hills and environs sought hospital service last year. The hospital has been incorporated.